

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This response is being filed within two (2) months after the mailing date of the final rejection.

Claims 1, 4, 5 and 21-34 remain in the application.

Claims 1, 4 and 5 stand allowed.

Claims 6, 7 and 8 are currently reinstated.

Claims 22, 23 and 25 are currently amended.

Claims 21 and 29-34 are currently cancelled.

Elections/Restrictions

Claims 1-20 were subject to a restriction requirement. Claims 1-5 were elected for prosecution in the present application.

However, claims 6-8 are dependent upon previously rejected claim 4. The Applicant hereby respectfully requests rejoinder of claims 6-8 because claim 4 has been found to be allowable. Claims 6-20 are hereby reinstated.

Regarding claims 23, 24 and 32-34, the Examiner states in the present Office Action at page 3, paragraph 8, that these claims are withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected invention, and that election was made without traverse in the reply filed on April 12, 2005.

The Applicant respectfully disagrees. Claims 23, 24 and 32-34 were all new claims presented for the first time in the reply filed on April 12, 2005. Therefore, the Applicant could not have elected to withdraw the claims in that same reply filed on April 12, 2005.

Furthermore, claims 23 and 24 both currently depend from a base claim that is allowable in the present application. Therefore, claims 23 and 24 both are believed to be directed to the invention elected for prosecution in the present application.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests rejoinder of both claims 23 and 24.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

Claims 29-31 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for reciting a “pair” of flexures in the body of the claim that the Examiner believes is insufficient structure to support a “serpentine flexure” as recited in the preamble.

Claims 29-31 are herein cancelled, whereby the rejection as to these claims is made moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

Claims 29-31 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) over either US Patent 5,542,295 to Howe, et al. or US Patent 5,880,369 to Samuels, et al.

Claims 29-31 are herein cancelled, whereby the rejection as to these claims is made moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 21, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) over US Patent 5,880,369 to Samuels, et al. in view of US Patent 6,318,174 to Schmiesing, et al.

Claims 21, 29 and 30 are herein cancelled, whereby the rejection as to these claims is made moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 22 and 25-28 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 22 and 25 have been so rewritten. Claims 22 and 25 are now believed to be allowable.

Claims 23 and 24 are allowable at least as depending from allowable base claim 22.

Claims 26-28 are allowable at least as depending from allowable base claim 25.

Rejoinder Of Claims

Claims 6-8 were cancelled as being dependent upon currently rejected claim 4. Furthermore, claims 6-8 were cancelled as part of an election in response to a Restriction Requirement.

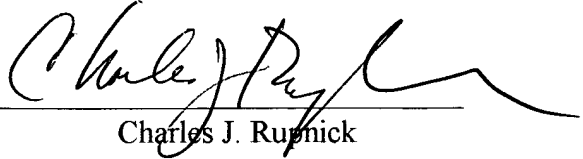
The Examiner agreed to consider rejoinder of claims 6-8 if claim 4 is found to be allowable. The Examiner has found that claim 4 is allowable. The Examiner has withdrawn the restriction requirement as to claim 4. The Applicant has therefore reinstated herein previously cancelled claims 6-8.

The claims now being in form for allowance, reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

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Amdt. dated July 19, 2005
Reply to Office action of May 20, 2005

If the Examiner has questions or wishes to discuss any aspect of the case, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney: 
Charles J. Rupnick

Registration No.: 43,068
Date: July 19, 2005
Post Office Address: PO Box 46752
Seattle, WA 98146
Telephone: (206) 439-7956
Facsimile: (206) 439-3223